

filtering fluids and filter for the same, according to various aspects of the present invention - -.

On page 4, line 4, insert - - Various modifications and alterations to the invention may be appreciated based on a review of this disclosure. These changes and additions are intended o be within the scope and spirit of the invention as defined by the following claims. - -.

IN THE CLAIMS

On page 5, line 2, replace "CLAIMS" with - - WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: - -.

Please amend claims 1-5, as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A system for filtering fluids, which comprises a plant formed by a network of circuitously arranged, interconnected membrane filters, in which [the] a fluid to be filtered is initially fed into the plant [first] with the flow in a [certain] first direction, and then fed into the [same] plant with the flow [reversed] in a direction opposite that of the first.

2. (Once Amended) [A] The system [for filtering fluids, according to] set forth in claim 1, [in which] wherein the plant [comprises] has a plurality of valves at selected locations about the network for flow [which] regulat[e]tion and control, [the

fluid flow] and [which] for flow mixing [the flow which that is fed into the plant from different points of the same] upon flow entry at one or more of the locations so as to achieve optimum flow balance within the system.

3. (Twice Amended) [A] The system [for filtering fluids, according to] set forth in claim 1, [in which] wherein each of the filters [which make up the plant] has connecting elements at opposing ends and is [are directly connected to each other] coaxially joined directly to at least one other filter within the network and joined in parallel directly to at least two other filters within the network, without the need for external piping.

4. (Once Amended) [A] The system [for filtering fluids, according to] set forth in claim [3] 1, [in which] wherein at least one end of each of the filters [are connected to each other via their filterhead ends] has a filter head for connecting filters to one another within the network.

5. (Once Amended) [A filter used in the] The system [for filtering fluids, according to claim 3,] set forth in claim 1, [in which its structure allows the reversal of the flow] wherein each of the filters of the network are substantially the same as one another and include membranes configured suitably for filtering the flow in at least two opposing directions.